

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A combined splint and cast for immobilizing ~~[[the]]~~ an injured body part ~~due to fracture, ligament rupture, dislocation or the like,~~ the combined splint and cast comprising:

a hand fixing member including a dorsum manus member for wrapping the back of ~~[[the]]~~ a hand and ~~[[the]]~~ a wrist of the hand and a palm member for supporting a palm of the hand, the dorsum manus and palm members forming a pair;

a connecting member including discrete right and left connecting members which form a pair for wrapping the region from the wrist to below ~~[[the]]~~ an elbow of the wrist; and

an elbow fixing member for immobilizing the region from the elbow to ~~[[the]]~~ a middle portion of ~~[[the]]~~ a humerus of the elbow,

wherein the hand fixing member, the connecting member and the elbow fixing members are used separately or cooperatively by being fastened ~~with belts~~ together.

2. (Original) The combined splint and cast as defined in claim 1, wherein the hand fixing member, the connecting member and the elbow fixing member are injection molded.

3. (Currently Amended) The combined splint and cast as defined in claim 1, wherein the hand fixing member includes:

a dorsum manus member having a dorsum manus plate of a shape substantially identical to the back side of the hand for wrapping the back side of the hand and an extension extended from one end of the dorsum manus plate to a wrist part for being closely contacted by the wrist;

a buffering material arranged in the inner face of the dorsum manus member for wrapping the back side of the hand;

a plurality of bolt holes formed in the inner face of the extension, wherein one end of the connecting member is in close contact with the inner face of the extension and the

hand fixing member is coupled to the connecting member with bolts inserted through the bolt holes;

a plurality of holes formed in the upper and lower portions of the front and rear ends of the dorsum manus plate; and

a fastener tape with one end fixed to any one of the holes and the other end fixed to the palm member for adjusting the contact condition between the dorsum manus member and the palm member.

4. (Original) The combined splint and cast as defined in claim 3, wherein the dorsum manus member has a support projected from the upper portion of the dorsum manus plate in which the thumb is seated for immobilizing the thumb in case of fracture in scaphoid bone.

5. (Currently Amended) The combined splint and cast as defined in claim [[1 or]] 3, wherein the palm member is configured in a planar form for immobilizing the palm, and includes:

a buffering material arranged in the inner face of the palm member for smoothly wrapping the palm;

a plurality of ventilation holes formed at opposite lateral sides of the palm member for allowing air circulation; and

holes formed in the upper and lower portions of the palm member for allowing the other end of the fastener tape which is fixed to the dorsum manus member to be inserted therethrough.

6. (Original) The combined splint and cast as defined in claim 1, wherein the connecting member is formed of substantially identical left and right connecting members for wrapping both lateral sides of the arm from the wrist to below the elbow, and includes:

a buffering material arranged in the inner face of the connecting member;

a plurality of bolt holes formed in the inner peripheries of the front and rear portions at equal intervals for allowing length adjustment such that the connecting member is coupled to the dorsum manus member with bolts inserted through the bolt holes;

a plurality of ventilation holes formed at opposite lateral sides thereof in a longitudinal direction in the inner face thereof;

a plurality of holes formed in the upper portions of the front and rear ends of the left and right connecting members; and

a fastener tape with one end fixed to any one of the holes and the other end inserted into a remaining one of the holes for securely wrapping radius and ulna parts.

7. (Currently Amended) The combined splint and cast as defined in claim 1, wherein the elbow fixing member includes:

a horizontal wall in which the elbow is seated;

a vertical wall bent from the horizontal wall for wrapping the region from the elbow to the middle portion of the humerus;

a buffering material arranged in the inner face thereof;

a plurality of ~~[[v]]~~ bolt holes formed in the inner peripheral surface of a leading end of the horizontal wall such that the ~~ankle~~ elbow fixing member is coupled to the rear end of the connecting member with bolts inserted through the bolts holes;

a plurality of holes formed in the upper portions of the horizontal and vertical walls; and

a fastener tape with one end fixed to any one of the holes and the other end coupled with an opposed one of the holes for securely immobilizing the elbow and the humerus.

8. (New) The combined splint and cast as defined in claim 1, wherein the palm member is configured in a planar form for immobilizing the palm, and includes:

a buffering material arranged in the inner face of the palm member for smoothly wrapping the palm;

a plurality of ventilation holes formed at opposite lateral sides of the palm member for allowing air circulation; and

holes formed in the upper and lower portions of the palm member for allowing the other end of the fastener tape which is fixed to the dorsum manus member to be inserted therethrough.

9. (New) An orthotic device, comprising:

a hand fixing member including a first hand member that substantially matches a shape of a backside of a hand for wrapping the back of the hand and a wrist of the hand, and a second hand member for supporting a palm of the hand;

a connecting assembly including a first connecting member and a second connecting member which together wrap a region from the wrist to below an elbow;

an elbow fixing member for immobilizing a region from the elbow to a middle portion of a humerus, and

wherein the hand fixing member, connecting assembly and elbow fixing member are used separately or at least two adjacent ones of the hand fixing member, the connecting assembly and the elbow fixing member are used cooperatively by being fastened together.

10. (New) The orthotic device as defined in claim 9, wherein the hand fixing member, the connecting assembly and the elbow fixing member are used separately or cooperatively by being fastened with bolts.

11. (New) The orthotic device as defined in claim 9, wherein the hand fixing member, the connecting assembly and the elbow fixing member are injection molded.

12. (New) The orthotic device as defined in claim 9, wherein the first hand member includes a dorsum manus plate of a shape substantially matching the back side of the hand for wrapping the back side of the hand and an extension extended from one end of the dorsum manus plate toward the wrist for being closely contacted by the wrist;

a plurality of apertures formed in the extension, wherein one end of the connecting assembly is in close contact with the extension and the hand fixing member is coupled to the connecting member;

a plurality of second apertures formed in the upper and lower portions of the front and rear ends of the dorsum manus plate; and

a fastener tape with one end fixed to any one of the second apertures and the other end fixed to the second hand member for adjusting the contact condition between the first hand member and the secondhand member.

13. (New) The orthotic device as defined in claim 12, wherein the first hand member has a support projected from the upper portion of the dorsum manus plate in which the thumb is seated for immobilizing the thumb in case of fracture in scaphoid bone.

14. (New) The orthotic device as defined in claim 12, wherein the second hand member is configured in a planar form for immobilizing the palm, and includes:

a plurality of ventilation holes formed at opposite lateral sides of the second hand member for allowing air circulation; and

apertures formed in the upper and lower portions of the second hand member for allowing the other end of the fastener tape which is fixed to the first hand member to be inserted therethrough.

15. (New) The orthotic device as defined in claim 12 further including a buffering material arranged in at least one of the inner face of the first hand member for wrapping the back of the hand and the inner face of the second hand member for smoothly wrapping the palm.

16. (New) The orthotic device as defined in claim 9, wherein the connecting assembly is formed of substantially identical left and right connecting members for wrapping both lateral sides of the arm from the wrist to below the elbow, the connecting assembly including:

a plurality of apertures formed in the inner peripheries of the front and rear portions at equal intervals for allowing length adjustment such that the connecting assembly is coupled to the first hand member with fasteners inserted through the apertures;

a plurality of ventilation holes formed at opposite lateral sides thereof in a longitudinal direction in the inner face thereof;

a plurality of second apertures formed in the upper portions of the front and rear ends of the left and right connecting members; and

a fastener tape with one end fixed to any one of the second apertures and the other end inserted into a remaining one of the second apertures for securely wrapping radius and ulna parts.

17. (New) The orthodic device as defined in claim 9, wherein the elbow fixing member includes:

a horizontal wall in which the elbow is seated;

a vertical wall bent from the horizontal wall for wrapping the region from the elbow to the middle portion of the humerus;

a plurality of apertures formed in the inner peripheral surface of a leading end of the horizontal wall such that the elbow fixing member is coupled to the rear end of the connecting assembly with fasteners inserted through the apertures;

a plurality of second apertures formed in the upper portions of the horizontal and vertical walls; and

a fastener tape with one end fixed to any one of the second apertures and the other end coupled with an opposed one of the second apertures for securely immobilizing the elbow and the humerus.

18. (New) The orthodic device as defined in claim 9, wherein the first hand member has a support projected from an upper portion thereof in which the thumb is seated for immobilizing the thumb and the second hand member is configured in a planar form for immobilizing the palm, and includes:

a buffering material arranged in the inner face of the second hand member for smoothly wrapping the palm;

a plurality of ventilation holes formed at opposite lateral sides of the second hand member for allowing air circulation; and

apertures formed in the upper and lower portions of the second hand member for allowing the other end of the fastener tape which is fixed to the first hand member to be inserted therethrough.

19. (New) A combined splint and cast for immobilizing the injured body part, the combined splint and cast comprising:

a hand fixing member including a dorsum manus member and a palm member configured in generally planar form, the dorsum manus member having a dorsum manus plate of a shape substantially identical to the back side of the hand for wrapping the back

side of the hand and extension extended from one end of the dorsum manus plate to a wrist of the hand for being closely contacted by the wrist;

a connecting member including right and left connecting members which form a pair for wrapping both lateral sides of an arm of the wrist from the wrist to below an elbow of the arm; and

an elbow fixing member for immobilizing the region from the elbow to the middle portion of the humerus, the elbow fixing member including a horizontal wall in which the elbow is seated and a vertical wall bent from the horizontal wall for wrapping the region from the elbow to the middle portion of a humerus adjacent the elbow;

wherein the hand fixing member, the connecting member and the elbow fixing member are used separately or at least partially cooperatively by being fastened together.